CLAIMS

1. Pressure limiting valve for a fluid medium under system pressure, with a valve housing, in which are provided an inlet channel and an outlet channel communicating therewith for the medium, wherein the flowrate of the medium can be regulated by an axially movable valve body, in effective connection with an energy accumulator, and interacting with a valve seat, wherein a piston coaxially adjoining the valve body bounds with its lateral surface a throttle gap, which communicates with the inlet channel and can be subjected to pressure directly or indirectly by the energy accumulator.

2. Pressure limiting valve according to Claim 1, in which a pilot valve is arranged between the valve housing and the energy accumulator, wherein the pilot valve has a pressure space at the end of the piston away from the valve body, into which the throttle gap emerges, and which is bounded by the end face of the piston, as well as an oppositely situated receiving part and laterally by the inner wall of the sealing sleeve.

3. Pressure limiting valve according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein a pressure chamber is provided in the transition region between the valve body and the piston, into which the inlet channel emerges.

4. Pressure limiting valve according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the inlet channel is arranged transversely to the lengthwise axis of the valve body/piston structural assembly.

5. Pressure limiting valve according to Claim 1, wherein the valve body in the operating position is arranged centered in a valve seat, forming a gap.

6. Pressure limiting valve according to Claim 1, wherein the valve body tapers toward its

end away from the piston

7. Pressure limiting valve according to Claim 1, wherein the piston is enclosed on its lateral surface by a stationary sealing sleeve.

8. Pressure limiting valve according to Claim 1, wherein the piston and the sealing sleeve are made of a wear-resistant material, preferably hard metal.

9. Pressure limiting valve according to Claim 1, wherein a leakage bore is provided in order to carry away the medium moving through the throttle gap in the valve housing.

10. Pressure limiting valve according to Claim 2, wherein a borehole communicating with the pressure space is arranged in the receiving part and can be closed at its other end by a control cone, which communicates with the energy accumulator.

11. Pressure limiting valve according to Claim 1, wherein the leakage bore is arranged in the region near the place where the control cone abuts the receiving part.